

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 08-0040
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Curran, Kraft, Cole, Henry, Young, Branch, Clarke, Welch,
Reisinger, Middleton, D'Adamo, Conaway, Holton, Spector

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2008

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Public Works,
Department of Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Property Owner Registry**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the City to maintain and keep current a central registry of property
4 owners; requiring purchasers at certain sales to notify the City of the purchase; and imposing
5 certain penalties.

6 BY authority of

7 Article VII - Executive Departments
8 Section(s) 40(c)
9 Baltimore City Charter
10 (1996 Edition)

11 BY adding

12 Article 28 - Taxes
13 Section(s) 5-1 to 5-3, to be under the new subtitle
14 "Subtitle 5. Registry of Property Owners"
15 Baltimore City Code
16 (Edition 2000)

17 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
18 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

19 **Baltimore City Code**

20 **Article 28. Taxes**

21 **SUBTITLE 5. REGISTRY OF PROPERTY OWNERS**

22 **§ 5-1. REGISTRY REQUIRED.**

23 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

24 (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SHALL MAINTAIN A CENTRAL REGISTRY OF THE
25 OWNERS OF ALL PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 08-0040

1 (2) THIS REGISTRY MAY BE INTEGRATED WITH OR MAINTAINED SEPARATELY FROM THE
2 OTHER PROPERTY RECORDS REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER CITY
3 CHARTER ARTICLE VII, § 40 {"DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: IDENTIFICATION OF
4 REAL PROPERTY"}.

5 (B) *USE.*

6 THE CENTRAL REGISTRY SHALL BE THE OFFICIAL RECORD TO BE USED BY ALL MUNICIPAL
7 AGENCIES TO IDENTIFY THE OWNER OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY.

8 **§ 5-2. IMMEDIATE UPDATE REQUIRED.**

9 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
10 FINANCE, SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A SYSTEM BY WHICH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
11 WORKS WILL:

12 (1) MONITOR EXECUTION SALES, FORECLOSURE SALES, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SALES IN THE
13 CITY; AND

14 (2) WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE EXECUTION, FORECLOSURE, OR OTHER JUDICIAL SALE OF A
15 PROPERTY, UPDATE THE CENTRAL REGISTRY AND THE CITY'S ASSESSMENT RECORDS
16 TO REFLECT THE PURCHASER OR OTHER NEW OWNER OF THE PROPERTY, WHETHER A
17 DEED HAS BEEN RECORDED OR NOT.

18 **§ 5-3. PURCHASER TO NOTIFY FINANCE.**

19 (A) *NOTICE REQUIRED.*

20 WITHIN 30 DAYS OF AN EXECUTION SALE, FORECLOSURE SALE, OR OTHER JUDICIAL SALE,
21 THE PURCHASER OR OTHER NEW OWNER OF THE PROPERTY SHALL NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR
22 OF PUBLIC WORKS OF THE SALE.

23 (B) *FORM AND CONTENTS.*

24 THE NOTICE SHALL BE IN THE FORM AND CONTAIN THE INFORMATION THAT THE DIRECTOR
25 OF WORKS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, REQUIRES.

26 (C) *PENALTIES.*

27 ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES A PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
28 AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$500 FOR EACH OFFENSE.

29 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
30 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
31 Ordinance.

32 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
33 after the date it is enacted.